ABSOLUTE
BATMAN
DC
ALL IN
13+ TEEN
1
DRAGOTTA
SCOTT
SNYDER
NICK
DRAGOTTA
FRANK
MARTIN

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE WONDER WOMAN

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NO ISLAND.
NO AMAZONS.
ABSOLUTE FURY.

Written by **KELLY THOMPSON** • Art and cover by **HAYDEN SHERMAN**

Meet Diana, **Princess of Hell**, beginning in **OCTOBER**

WELCOME TO THE CHIROPTERA HABITAT.
Bats are CRAZY!
I'M BATTY.
AS YOU ENTER THE ENCLOSURE WE ASK YOU DON'T TAKE PICTURES, BUT OBSERVE HOW...
FLY!
Bats WALK ON

BRUCE!

THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR BATS LATER.
COME ON. LET'S START.
GOTHAM ZOO

ABSOLUTE BATMAN

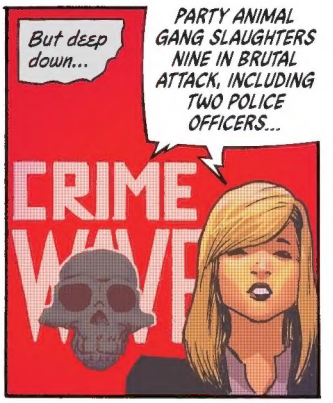
"THE ZOO"

PART ONE OF FIVE

Hello again, Gotham.

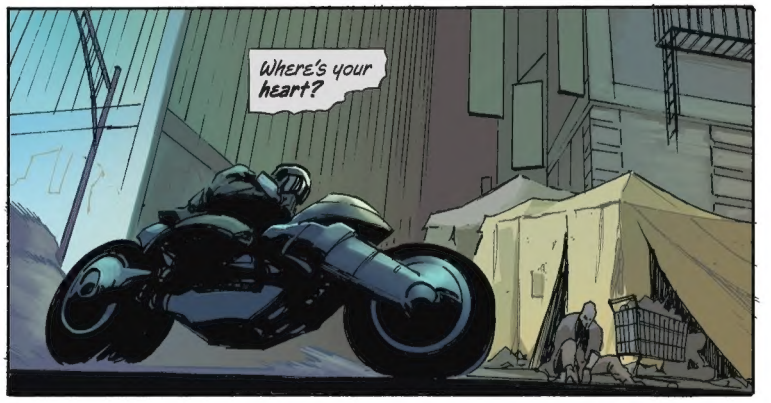
It's been a long time.

So, who are you these days? Who have you become while I was gone?
You're prettier, I'll give you that. Taller, brighter.


But deep down...
PARTY ANIMAL GANG SLAUGHTERS NINE IN BRUTAL ATTACK, INCLUDING TWO POLICE OFFICERS...
CRIME

...something's changed.

My third lap around and I still can't find it.


Where's your heart?

You used to have a center. Hot and beating.

But something's hollowed you out.

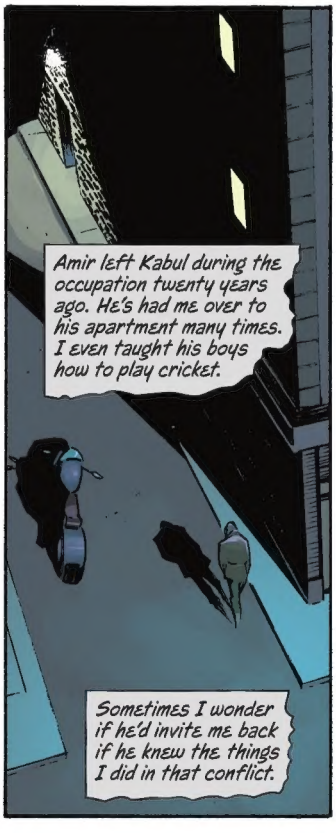
In fact, I barely recognize you anymore.
GOTHAM DELI & GROCERY
OPEN

I'm not sure I like this new you, Gotham.
But that's okay.

I don't think you're going to like me much, either.

My name is Alfred Pennyworth.
And I'm here to do some bad things.

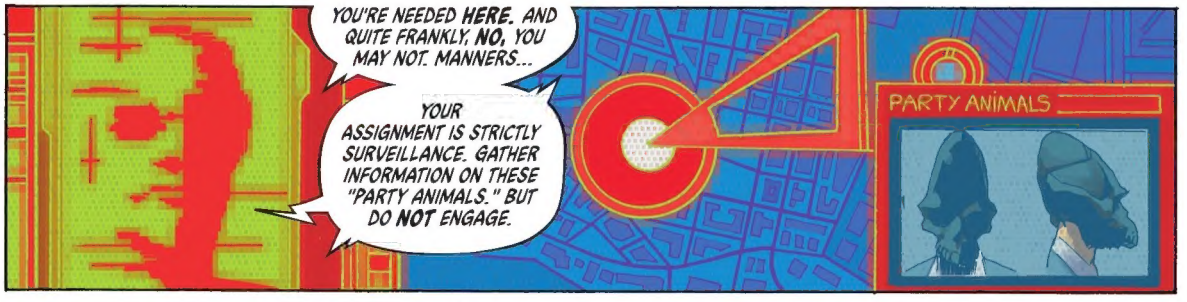
SO GOOD TO SEE YOU, OLD FRIEND. I STILL STOCK YOUR FAVORITE.
YOU'RE A GIANT AMONG MEN, AMIR.
TRUE, TRUE. BUT I WOULDN'T LEAVE YOUR BIKE OUT THERE UNLESS YOU'RE ASKING FOR TROUBLE...
NEVER.
TEA


Amir left Kabul during the occupation twenty years ago. He's had me over to his apartment many times. I even taught his boys how to play cricket.
Sometimes I wonder if he'd invite me back if he knew the things I did in that conflict.

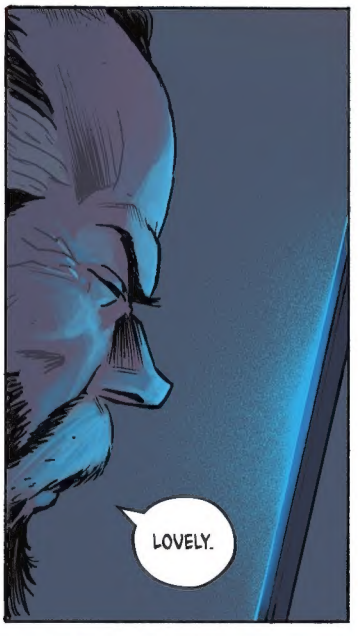
But...he runs the only decent tea shop in Gotham, which is why I keep my things next door.

--JULIA, LEAVE A MESSAGE.
...
JULIA...? HI. I KNOW IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, BUT I'M IN GOTHAM. AT LEAST FOR A SHORT WHILE. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU EVEN STILL LIVE HERE ANYMORE, BUT IF YOU DO, I'D BE GRATEFUL FOR THE CHANCE TO SEE YOU.
THIS IS YOUR FATHER, BY THE WAY.
SIGH
JULIA
Well done, €$#%€.
She knows you too well for that.

PENNYWORTH SIGNING IN. CONNECTION SECURE.
AH. TEA AS GOOD AS YOU REMEMBER?
DELIGHTFUL. WHAT'S THE ASSIGNMENT?
I READ THE DOCKET. BUT CAN I ASK WHY YOU PULLED ME OUT OF SINGAPORE? I WAS THIS CLOSE TO THE TARGET. I'D BEEN CHASING HIM FOR FIVE--
IN THE PAST THREE MONTHS, A GANG KNOWN AS "THE PARTY ANIMALS" HAS BEEN SOWING CHAOS, BUTCHERING CITIZENS AT RANDOM, RAISING THE MURDER RATE BY 700 PERCENT ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY. A DAY CARE WAS TORCHED YESTERDAY. THEY DANCED OUTSIDE WHILE 32 BURNED.


YOU'RE NEEDED HERE. AND QUITE FRANKLY, NO, YOU MAY NOT. MANNERS...
YOUR ASSIGNMENT IS STRICTLY SURVEILLANCE. GATHER INFORMATION ON THESE "PARTY ANIMALS." BUT DO NOT ENGAGE.
PARTY ANIMALS

ONE NOTE--THERE MIGHT BE... ANOTHER PLAYER IN TOWN.
WE'VE ONLY CAUGHT GLIMPSES, BUT HE SEEMS TO BE CIRCLING THE GANG AS WELL. IF HE GETS TOO CLOSE, YOU DO HAVE AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE HIM.


LOVELY.

WE'RE SENDING COORDINATES TO THE BIKE AS WE SPEAK. PLACES TO SCOPE OUT. POSSIBLE TARGETS.
SAVOR THE TEA. SIGNING OFF.

What's gotten into you, old man? Questioning orders.

You're a servant.

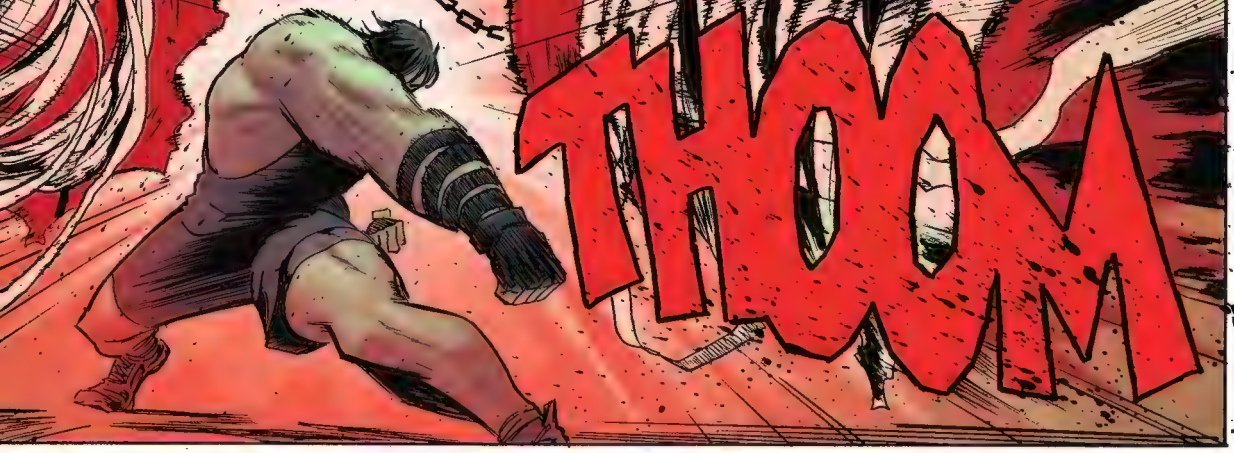
They ring, you serve.
Whether it's in Saigon, Khartoum, or...

...Gotham.
I HATE THIS @#$% TOWN.

TONIGHT THIS IS *YOUR* CITY.
CROC'S GYM
WAK
NO FEAR.
WAK
NO WEAKNESS.
UNH!
WAK
WAK
WAK
TONIGHT YOU ARE A--
DING DING
I THINK IT'S MY TURN.

OH, HEY, BRUCE! SORRY, I WAS JUST KEEPING IT WARM FOR YOU.
BIG DATE TONIGHT. GOTTA GET IN THE RIGHT HEADSPACE. IT'S BRUTAL OUT THERE, YOU KNOW?
DON'T WORRY. LOVE IS IN THE AIR.
NOW MOVE.
BOOM
THOOM
BOOM
DAMN.

BOOM
SO, WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED, CLASS?
BOOM
UM, THAT THIS GUY HAS THE LIFE?
HAHA HAHA
BOOM
ENLIGHTEN US, BRUCE?
WELL. IT SAYS HERE HE SLEEPS TWENTY HOURS. PLUS, HE GETS FED PRIME RIB THREE TIMES A DAY. AND NEVER HAS TO BE AFRAID OF ANYTHING.
BOOM
FAIR. HE MIGHT BE CODDLED, BUT HE'LL NEVER AFFECT ANYTHING.
NEVER MEAN VERY MUCH.
HE NEVER HAS TO GO TO SCHOOL...
HAHA HAHA
BOOM
SAYS THE BOY TO HIS FATHER, THE TEACHER.
I'M JUST MESSING WITH YOU... MR. WAYNE.
FORGIVEN.
SO, ARE YOU EXCITED FOR THE MOVIE TONIGHT?
I MEAN, I'M EXCITED FOR THE NAP. DO I REALLY HAVE TO COME?
YES. IT'S THE FILM--
YOU AND MOM MET AT, I GET IT. BUT WHY DO I--
BLAM
OH GOD.


THOOM

REALLY?
@#$%. SORRY, WAYLON.
PH
SSSHH

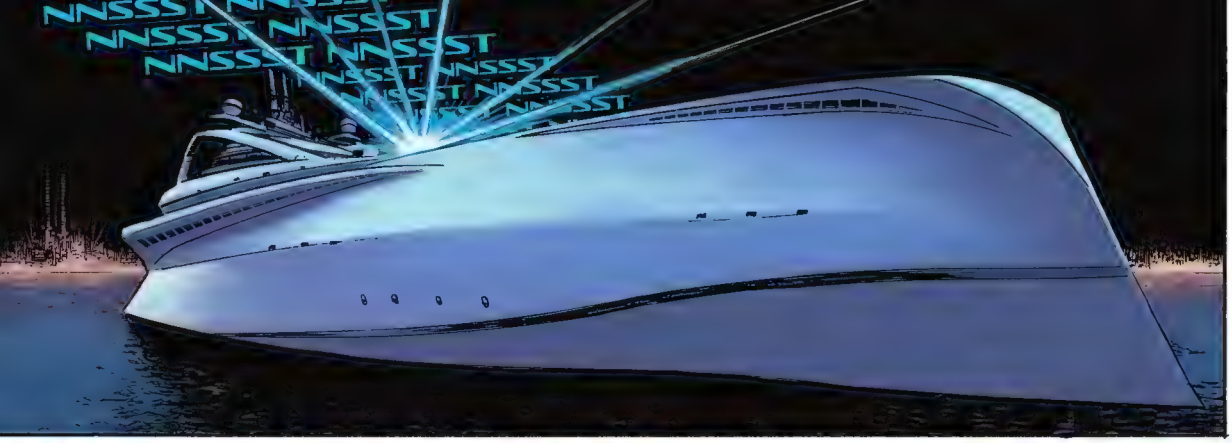
SIGH SO...LET'S MAKE IT *NINETY* FOR THE BAG.
THIRTY FOR THE *SAND*--

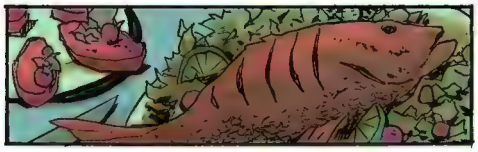
WHAT? THE SAND *COMES* IN THE BAG.
FOR THE *CLEANUP* OF THE SAND, MY FRIEND. MY TIME IS COSTLY THESE DAYS.

YOU'RE *REALLY* GOING THROUGH WITH IT?
YEP. I'M THINKING OF CALLING THE PLACE *"WAYLON'S SCALES OF GOTHAM."*
OZZIE HOOKED ME UP WITH THE *EXOTIC-PET LICENSE.* WENT IN WITH ME, TOO.

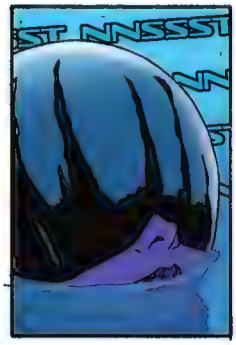
OZZIE? WAY...
...HE'S GOING TO GET BUSTED ANY DAY NOW.

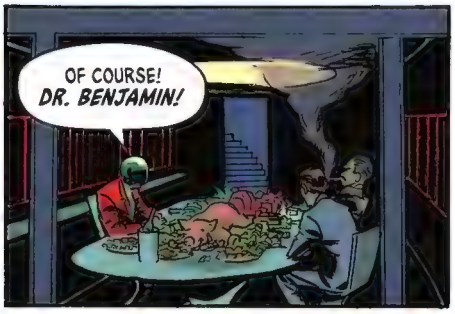
DON'T YOU WATCH THOSE NATURE SHOWS, BROTHER? PENGUINS KNOW HOW TO HIDE THEIR EGGS. BESIDES, HE'S OUR BOY. SPEAKING OF WHICH...
I CAN'T.
YOU HAVEN'T COME TO *POKER* IN MONTHS, MAN. EVERYONE'S IN THIS WEEK. *EDDIE, HARVEY, OZ.* I'M EVEN TRYING TO GET *SELINA* TO DIAL--
I SAID I *CAN'T.*
AT *LEAST* TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO THE *TOWN HALL* TONIGHT.
I'LL BUY YOU A NEW BAG SOON AS I GET PAID.
COME ON, MAN. THE WHOLE CITY'S COMING APART. THESE *PARTY ANIMAL* @#$%?
...YOU SAW WHAT THEY DID TO THAT *FAMILY* YESTERDAY? I ALMOST THREW UP WATCHING THE FOOTAGE. TYING THE MOM AND BABY TO THE DAMN BUMPER AND SEEING WHICH ONE--
I GOTTA GO.
... WHAT IS GOING *ON* WITH YOU?
HEY, BRUCE! I'M *TALKING* TO YOU!
THIS IS OUR *HOME,* MAN...
...SOMEONE'S GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

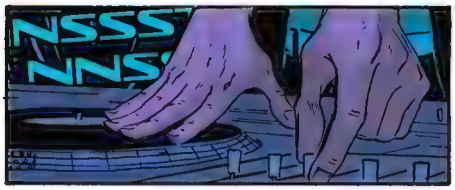

NNSSST

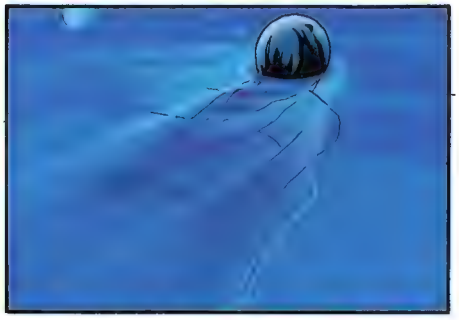


THAT POSSIBLY GO ANY LOUDER?




OF COURSE! DR. BENJAMIN!





BETTER? HE HAS A PHD IN MUSICOLOGY, YOU KNOW.
ARE YOU SERIOUS? IS HE SERIOUS?
WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS IS, SOME KIND OF #$% FESTIVITY?

YES.
YES, I DO.

ROZ? YOU COMING, BABY?
WELL RUMOR IS, THESE PARTY ANIMAL PIECES OF @#$%, THEY'RE YOUR GUYS.
KILLING PEOPLE RIGHT AND LEFT. OLD LADIES. KIDS. FOR WHAT? WHY?
THERE'S RULES, UNDERSTAND? GOTHAM ISN'T JUST--
ROMAN?
HEY, KIDDO.
WHEN ARE YOU ALL COMING TO DANCE?
MR. MARONI? MR. FALCONE? WHAT DO YOU SAY? SHALL WE? THE NIGHT IS YOUNG.
IT'S THREE IN THE #$%& MORNING! PUT THAT DAMN KID TO BED, TURN THE MUSIC OFF, AND LISTEN UP.
DR. BENJAMIN! OFF, PLEASE.
OKAY, I'M LISTENING.
WE HEAR RUMORS ABOUT YOU. HEAR YOU'RE SOME KIND OF BIG SHOT...
GOT GUYS ALL OVER THE WORLD, DIFFERENT ANIMALS, GOATS HERE, GIRAFFES THERE. YOU'RE CONNECTED TO SOME GLOBAL, SICK, ILLUMINATI WHATEVER THE HELL.
BUT THE TRUTH IS WE'VE BEEN IN BUSINESS HERE FOR 150 YEARS, UNDERSTAND? A CENTURY AND A HALF THAT'S HISTORY. YOU NEED TO RESPECT IT.
THAT'S RIGHT. AND WE'VE GOT BROTHERS AND COUSINS, AND GUYS ALL OVER TOWN. SO TAKE YOUR LITTLE PARTY BOAT AND SAIL AWAY BY DAWN. DAWN OR YOU'RE DEAD. YOU HEAR US?
BABY. SHOW THEM THE MASKS.
GOOD IDEA, SWEETHEART.
FRIENDS, I'M AFRAID YOU HAVE ME ALL WRONG. HISTORY IS WHAT I'M ALL ABOUT. THAT'S WHAT WE'RE CELEBRATING HERE...
...ITS END.

WOW. MORE MASKS.
NOT JUST ANY MASKS. DEATH MASKS. I COLLECT THEM. THAT ONE IS RUMORED TO BE SOCRATES HIMSELF. ONLY TWO EXIST IN THE WORLD. ONE IN MYCENAEAN GOLD AND THIS ONE, MADE OF VIRGIN MARBLE DUST.
KLIK
THAT'S MARTIN LUTHER TO YOUR LEFT. ONE OF A KIND. MADE OF BEESWAX AND PINE RESIN.
THAT'S GEORGE WASHINGTON THERE. GYPSUM PLASTER FROM VIRGINIA'S OWN QUARRIES.
AND THAT THERE, MR. MARONI...
...IS YOUR BROTHER.
...SAL? WHAT THE...
AND THAT'S YOUR COUSIN, MR. FALCONE.
AND ALL THE REST OF THEM ALONGSIDE.
GURK!
WITH TWO PLACES LEFT, JUST FOR YOU. RIGHT, KIDDO?
YOU #$%&--
NNSSST NNSSST
TING
DR. BENJAMIN! TURN IT BACK UP, PLEASE!

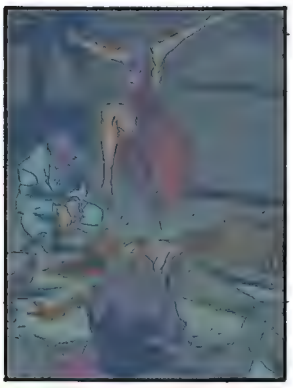
--SIX MORE MURDERED JUST TODAY--

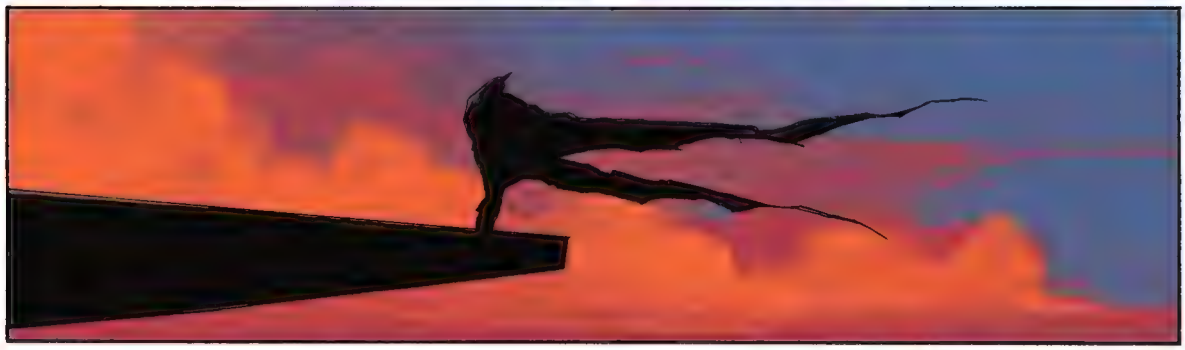
THE QUESTION IS, WHO **ARE** THESE MONSTERS, THE "PARTY ANIMALS"? SOME SAY KIDS GONE MAD--

NEWS

--HACKED APART WITH MACHETES. WE ARE WARNING YOU, THE FOOTAGE YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE IS DISTURBING. YOU MIGHT WANT SMALL CHILDREN TO--

N





--TRUTH IS, ALL OF US HERE AT THE STATION ARE PRAYING FOR GOTHAM. FOR ITS PEOPLE, ITS FUTURE...

EWS

--TONIGHT **MAYOR JIM GORDON** IS HOLDING AN EMERGENCY TOWN HALL TO DISCUSS WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PARTY ANIMALS' REIGN OF TERROR. HERE'S HOPING IT'S **EVENTFUL**...

--YOU'RE A DISGRACE, GORDON!
--STEP DOWN BEFORE--
--IS A JOKE--
--VOTING HILL--
PLEASE, EVERYONE. ONE AT A TIME!
ALL RIGHT, GO AHEAD, SIR.
YOU RAN ON YOUR RECORD AS A COP, GORDON. AND WE GAVE YOU A CHANCE, BUT UNDER MAYOR HILL, AT LEAST WE WEREN'T BEING KILLED OFF!
HAMILTON HILL IS A DAMN CROOK, MAN. WE ALL KNOW THAT.
MAYBE HE IS A CROOK, BUT AT LEAST HE'S TOUGH!
HE'D FIGHT BACK!
WE ARE FIGHTING BACK, BUT THIS GANG, WE HAVE NO IDEA--
I RUN FINGER TAILORS ON 27TH STREET. EVERY SINGLE WEEKDAY FOR 71 YEARS I'VE WALKED TO MY SHOP, EXCEPT THE DAY MY SON WAS BORN AND THE DAY MY WIFE DIED.
18,302 TIMES I'VE WALKED THERE.
BUT I DON'T WALK THERE ANYMORE. I DON'T WALK ANYWHERE, BECAUSE I'M SCARED!
Even from out here I can feel it.
That mix of fear and rage. The explosive tremble in the air before something bad happens.
And then I see them.
Ape skulls and bad prom clothes. Heavily armed.
Laughing and giddy. Gleeful.
This is going to be bad.
PENNYWORTH REPORTING, SIR. PARTY ANIMALS ARE AT THE SITE. HEAVILY ARMED.
COPY. REPORT BACK AFTER INCIDENT.
...
MASS CASUALTIES POSSIBLE, SIR. PERMISSION TO ENGAGE IF--
PERMISSION DENIED, PENNYWORTH. WHATEVER HAPPENS THERE, YOU OBSERVE ONLY.

I PROMISE YOU, WE *WILL* BRING THESE CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE. NOW, I'M WORKING 'ROUND THE CLOCK WITH CITY POLICE TO--

THE *POLICE?!* THE PARTY ANIMALS JUST TORCHED A STATION TWO HOURS AGO!
IT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS. COPS RUNNING AROUND ON FIRE. DOWN ON KANE AND THIRD.

THE COPS CAN'T DO A @#$% THING!

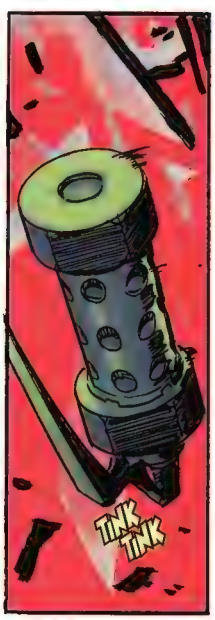
IS THAT SO...?
EASY, BULLOCK.

RRRR...

PEOPLE! LOOK AT US! THIS IS WHAT THEY WANT!
ALL OF US FIGHTING, SCARED, BLAMING EACH OTHER.

BUT JIM GORDON SERVED THIS CITY HONORABLY FOR A LONG TIME. I WORK WITH HIS OFFICE, AND I TRUST HIM. I ALSO *TRUST* US TO BE BETTER THAN THIS.

BECAUSE IT'S NOT *JUST* UP TO HIM OR COMMISSIONER BULLOCK. IT'S UP TO *ALL* OF US TO STOP THESE KILLERS.
THIS IS OUR CITY, AND *TOGETHER,* WE WILL--


TINK TINK

AG

I THINK THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, MISS, IS *DIE!*
UP HERE! LOOK AT ME. WHATEVER YOU WANT, DEAL WITH ME.
HI, JIMMY.
BYE, JIMMY.
TAT
TAT
TAT
AGH!
DAD!
BARBARA! JUST GET EVERYONE OUT OF HERE! NOW!

ANYONE WANT TO BEG? TELL US ABOUT YOUR KIDS? YOUR SICK GRANDMA? WE LOVE THAT...
NO? ALL RIGHT, THEN.
RIP 'EM UP!
CHIK CHIK
ACK!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
SLAM
EVERYONE MOVE TO THE BACK! AND STAY DOWN!
MY GOD... THERE'S DOZENS OF THEM OUT THERE! A WHOLE ARMY!
WE NEED TO SECURE THE--
WHATEVER YOU HEAR, YOU DO NOT OPEN THIS DOOR.

PENNYWORTH? REPORT? CASUALTY COUNT?
...NONE. THE OTHER PLAYER JUST ARRIVED.

IF HE DISRUPTS INTEL GATHERING, YOU ARE TO ENGAGE.
PENNYWORTH?
...COPY.

UNH...
WHAT HAPPENED? WHO--

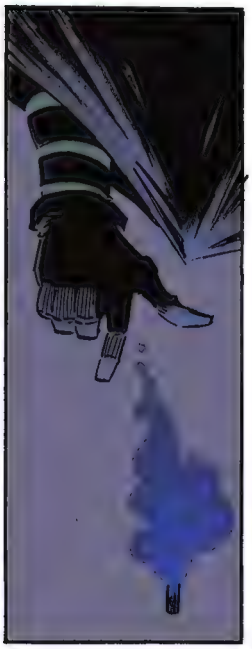
TAT RATTA TAT TAT TAT TAT
UP THERE! SHRED HIM!

POW POW POW POW

BAP BAP BAP BAP

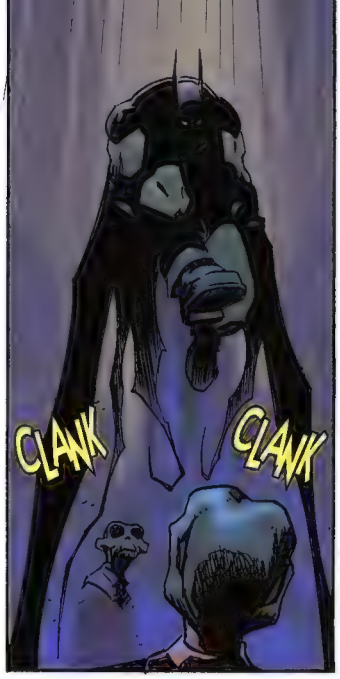
TING
PING
TING
PING
TING
PING
TING
TING
PING
TING
PING
TING
PING
PING

TAP PAP



RATTA
RAT TAT
TAT
RATTA

GRK!
THOOK
AAAAAAHHHH--
KRASH
WAITWAIT--
THOOK
DONK


CLANK
CLANK

WA-KRAK
Well, well. Look at you go...

...whoever you are, you've got flair, I'll give you that.
IS THE OTHER PLAYER DISRUPTING THE SCENE, PENNYWORTH?
...
STILL GATHERING DATA.

All right, big guy...

...let's see what you can really do.

You're fast.
Steady.
TOK
TOK
TOK
Above all, focused.
SHNK
AGH!
SHNK
You've been waiting for this, haven't you?
Yeah, you have.
CHKK
CHKK
CHKK
You're trained, too.
Mixed martial arts.
Your own blend.
Muay Thai.
BJJ.
But you're a striker above all.
Brutal, yet precise.
You're putting on a show.
A leg stomped on so everyone hears the crack. An arm snapped over your knee.
Sending a message.
You're enjoying it, too.
And the knife work... my lord.
So bloody, yet you miss each artery by just enough.
No fatalities at all. Not one.
So, an idealist... bloody hell.
MOVE!

THIS *HAND* HAS KILLED MORE PEOPLE THAN YOU CAN COUNT. NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE.
...GET THE #$%& OUT OF OUR WAY.
SHUNK

RAHHH!

...I... YOU...

I HEAR THEY CAN REATTACH THEM SOMETIMES.
THERE'S A HOSPITAL THREE BLOCKS SOUTH OF HERE. OR IT IS EAST? I CAN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER ALL OF A SUDDEN...

...BUT I'D RUN.

THE REST OF YOU...
...I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE TO GET THE #$%&...

...OUT OF MY WAY!
Well done.
But if you were a true tactician, you'd have set up a trap for those fleeing the--
BOOM
HEH.
PENNYWORTH! WHAT'S GOING ON THERE? THE SATELLITE IMAGES MAKE NO SENSE. WHOEVER THE PLAYER IS, YOU ARE TO ENGAGE. COPY?

COPY.
GROAN
MOAN
...
...
...
...
THAT IS THE SOUND OF A DC-34 AUTOMATIC SHOTGUN, SON. THERE ARE ONLY THREE OF THEM IN THE WORLD. IT COULD BLOW YOUR BRAINS ALL OVER THIS SIDEWALK...
WHIR...
...BEFORE YOU EVEN BLINK.
KRAK
SOUNDS DANGEROUS.

The next day, everyone's talking about it.
"Who is the Batman?"
So who are you, really...?
...Bruce Wayne?
You hide your tracks well.
But it's easy when you're no one.
Just some guy. 24 years old. Mom is a social worker. Dad is a teacher.
You grow up in Crime Alley. High friends in low places. A tight group.
You're smart. Excel in school. Your parents have you tested and you score near genius level.
Then, in fifth grade, you win a student engineering competition, creating a mobile, collapsible bridge that can be used to bring aid to locations hit by catastrophic damage from war, cataclysm...
The design is origami-like. Based on the anatomy of a bat wing.
And the prize is a trophy...
...and a trip for your whole class to the Gotham Zoo.
Where it starts...

BLAM
FOLLOW ME! NOW!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
HURRY, THIS WAY! INTO THE BAT HOUSE!
EVERYONE INSIDE!

EXIT
BAT
CLOSURE
GET TO THE BACK.

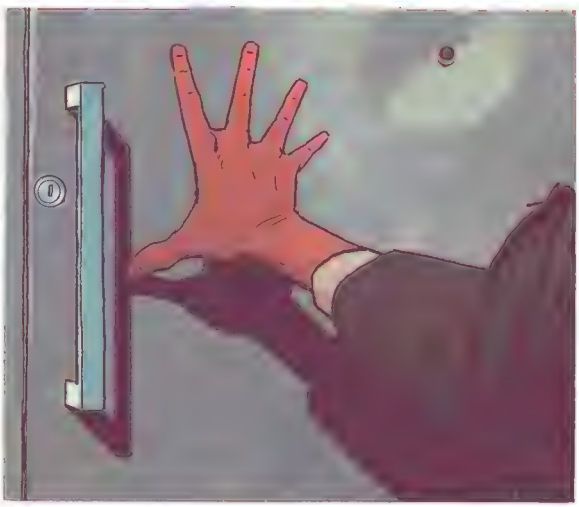
DAD, GET INSIDE!

DAD!

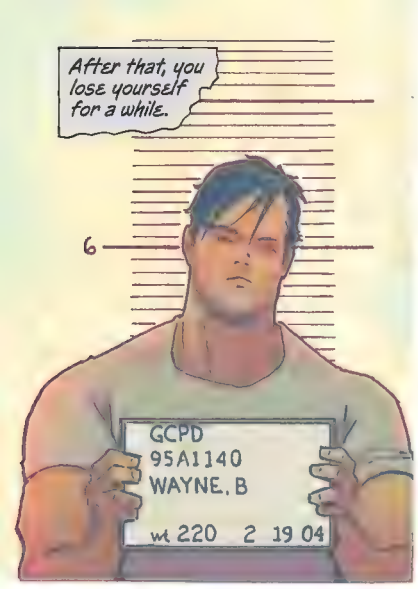
DAD!

BLAM

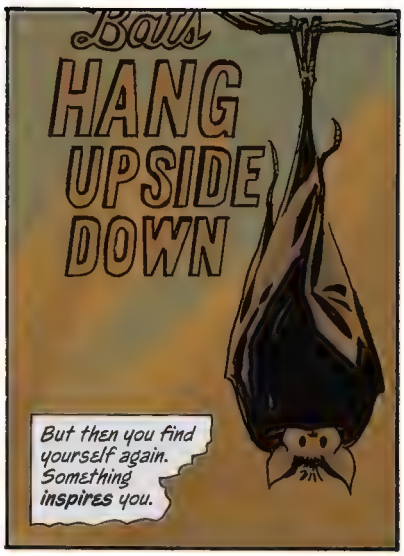
BRUCE, WHATEVER YOU HEAR, YOU DO NOT OPEN THIS DOOR.



BLAM

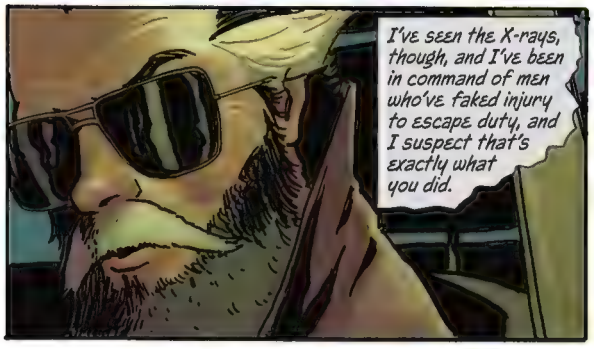

After that, you lose yourself for a while.
6
GCPD
95A1140
WAYNE, B
wt 220 2 19 04

Lash out. Rage at the world.
GOTHAM ZOO


Bats
HANG UPSIDE DOWN
But then you find yourself again. Something inspires you.

Bats
WALK ON THEIR HANDS

You straighten out. You go back to school and get a scholarship to the best university in the state.
But when you get there, you're injured in the first week, a soft-tissue tear.


I've seen the X-rays, though, and I've been in command of men who've faked injury to escape duty, and I suspect that's exactly what you did.

But why? You were good enough to be a star, even go pro.
Because you were saving your body for last night. For all this, whatever it is you've built.

You study applied mechanics...

...chemistry...
Zr
Zirconium
91.224
Nb
Niobium
92.908
Hf
Hafnium
178.49
Ta
Rf

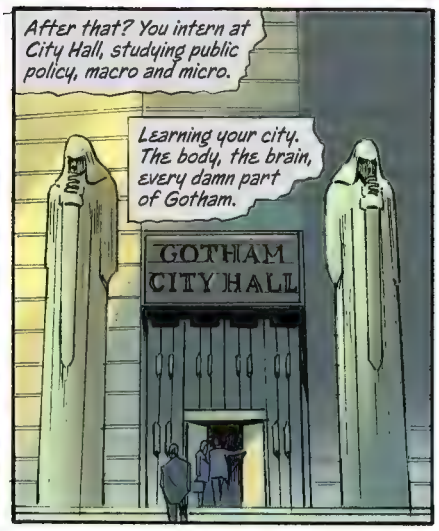
...criminal psychology...

...military theory...

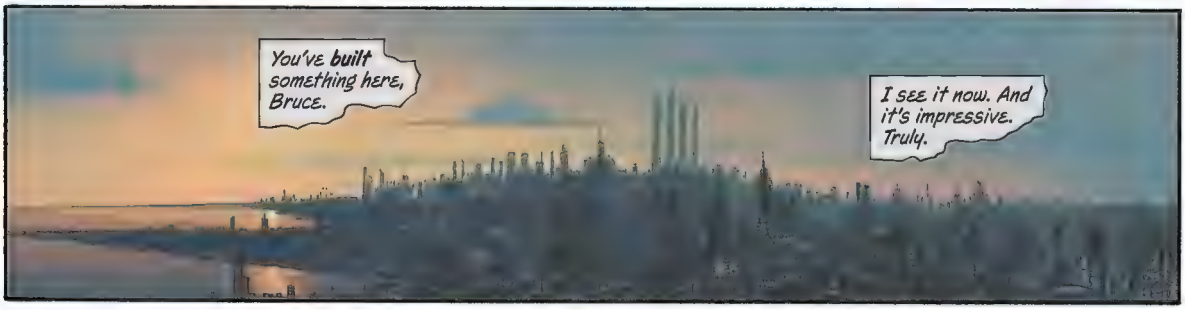
...sociocultural history. Everything to prepare...

...and then you come home.
You set up in Gotham and work in the power grid.

Then the water department.
Next, sanitation.


After that? You intern at City Hall, studying public policy, macro and micro.
Learning your city. The body, the brain, every damn part of Gotham.
GOTHAM CITY HALL

Until finally, you come full circle. Ever the engineer.
Creating. Building. You even fix what you break... repairing the stairs you blew up last night.


You've **built** something here, Bruce.
I see it now. And it's impressive. Truly.

But I've taken down men like you before. In cities, in jungles, in deserts, all over the world.

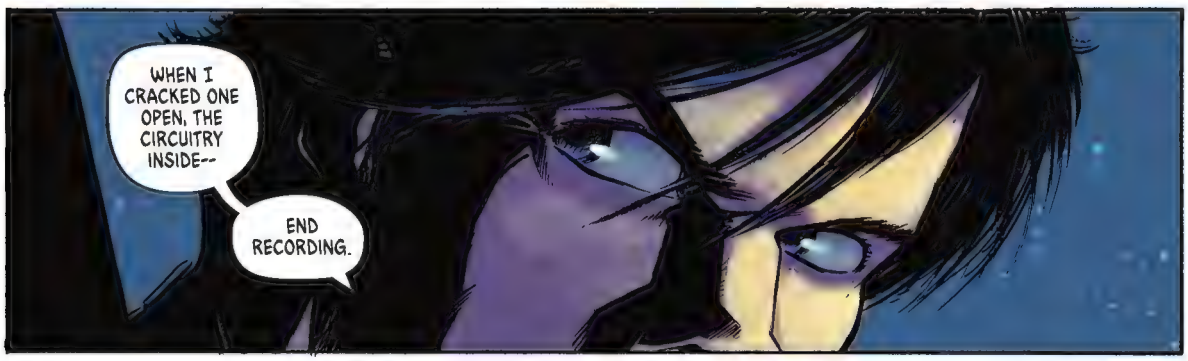
Because you're **crusaders**.

And crusaders always have a weakness.

CHIK
And yours...

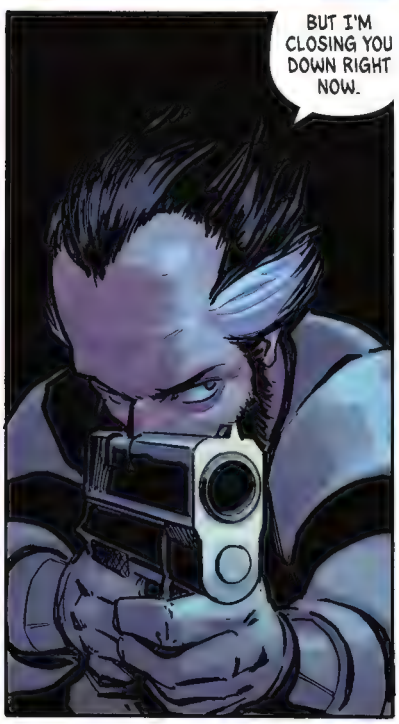
...is sitting right there.
TT...SERIOUSLY? MAKING YOUR POOR MOTHER WAIT AN HOUR FOR YOU OUT HERE ON THE COLD, HARD STREETS OF GOTHAM...
SORRY, MOM. I JUST... SWUNG BY THE ZOO.
SIGH FORGIVEN.
I HEARD WHAT HAPPENED AT THE TOWN HALL LAST NIGHT. ARE YOU OKAY?
THEY BUSTED IN RIGHT WHEN I WAS STARTING TO WIN OVER THE CROWD, BUT OTHER THEN THAT...
I could kill you right here in front of her. It'd be easy.
It's what I should do.
BZZT BZZT
FROM JULIA
NEVER CONTACT ME AGAIN!
But you're just a €$#% kid.

THERE'S MORE TO THESE APE SKULL MASKS THAN FIRST APPEARS.
THEY AREN'T JUST FOR PROTECTION, OR EVEN INTIMIDATION.


WHEN I CRACKED ONE OPEN, THE CIRCUITRY INSIDE--
END RECORDING.

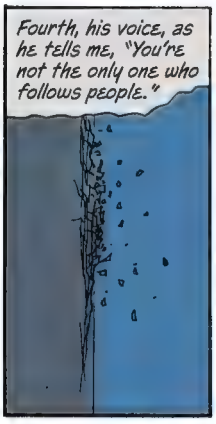
PRETTY SMART, MATE. HIDING OUT IN THE TOPS OF THESE BUILDINGS.

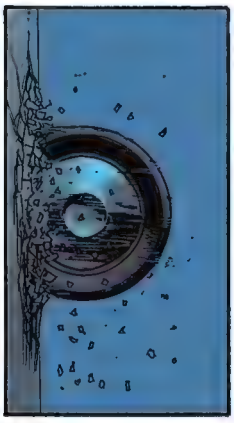
ALL THE TOP FLOORS ARE OWNED BY COMPANIES AND OLIGARCHS WHO NEVER USE THEM. JUST HOLLOW INVESTMENTS.
YOU KNOW THIS, THOUGH. BECAUSE YOU WORKED ON THEM.


BUT I'M CLOSING YOU DOWN RIGHT NOW.

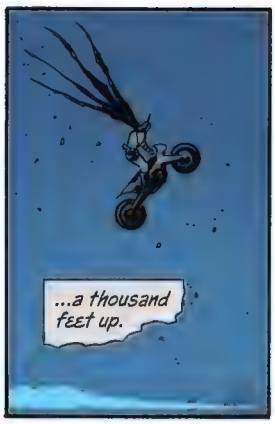
AW-- THOUGHT YOU WERE BETTER THAN THAT, SON.
YOU GET CORNERED AND ALL THOSE IDEALS GO OUT THE WINDOW?
CHK CHAK
GIVE ME THE GUN, KID.
YOU'RE NO KILLER.
BOOM
RRRRRRRRRR

And then a few things happen very fast.
VRVR!
First, I realize the little #$%¢ modified my prize shotgun to be nonlethal. Ruined it.
VRURRRVR-RRRRRR
Second, I hear that very gun clatter by my side as though he's saying, "Keep it."
Third, I hear this...roar...
...the roar of my own damn bike.


Fourth, his voice, as he tells me, "You're not the only one who follows people."



And lastly, I hear the sound of glass shattering as he rides out the window...


...a thousand feet up.

KOFF WHERE THE HELL IS HE GOING TO LAND?

Bats are CRAZY!
I'M BATTY.

WRITER: SCOTT SNYDER
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COLORIST: FRANK MARTIN
LETTERER: CLAYTON COWLES

COVER: DRAGOTTA & MARTIN

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1:25 VARIANT COVER BY IAN BERTRAM
1:50 VARIANT COVER BY MITCH GERADS
1:100 BLACK AND WHITE VARIANT COVER BY JIM LEE & SCOTT WILLIAMS

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: SABRINA FUTCH
EDITOR: KATIE KUBERT
EXECUTIVE EDITOR: CHRIS CONROY

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER

EPILOGUE.
I'LL GET HIM NEXT TIME HE INTERFERES.
UNDERSTOOD. JUST STAY FOCUSED ON THE PARTY ANIMALS.
AND...FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...
...YOUR OLD TARGET? WE LOST HIM SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES. HE'S IN THE WIND. THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW.
Lost him.
Five years I tracked him. While he studied with Henri Ducard in France, then killed the poor @#$%.
While he trained with the League of Assassins, then killed them.
Now...in the wind.
MANILA.
SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING PLANT.
SO JUST "SIR," NOTHING ELSE? NO MR. THIS OR THAT?
NOPE. THEY'RE ALL FAKE ANYWAY...
...JACK, ARTHUR. HELL, EVEN I DON'T KNOW HIS REAL NAME.
WHEN YOU'RE ONE OF THE THIRTY RICHEST MEN ON THE PLANET, YOU CAN BE WHOEVER YOU WANT, I GUESS.
THINK HE'D WANT TO BE MY RICH, GENEROUS BEST FRIEND?
"DON'T DO THAT. DON'T JOKE."
"WHY?"
"YOU DIDN'T HEAR? THE GUY NEVER LAUGHS. NOT AT ANYTHING. EVER.
"THAT'S WHY THEY CALL HIM...
"...THE JOKER."
TO BE CONTINUED...

STEVE TREVOR FALLS, AND A NEW HERO IS BORN!

WONDER WOMAN #14

The critically acclaimed team of writer **TOM KING** and artist **DANIEL SAMPERE** launch Diana's greatest adventure yet

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GO ALL IN THIS OCTOBER

DC ALL IN

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

INTERVIEW WITH TATE BROMBAL

On a postapocalyptic Earth overrun by monsters, the battle between good and evil ended long ago—and evil won. Darkness prevails as humanity struggles to survive in the corrupted wasteland. Only one hero is said to haunt what's left of our shadowed cities—the Green Lantern. Celebrated horror artist of the smash hit *Something Is Killing the Children* Werther Dell'Edera teams with rising-star writer Tate Brombal (*House of Slaughter*) to bring you a chilling tale of desperation, hope, and resurrection from the bitter remains of the fan-favorite Tangent Universe!

What does it mean to be contributing to the relaunch of the iconic Elseworlds line?

It is such an honor to be contributing a story to that pantheon. The Elseworlds line features some of the best superhero storytelling in comics. It's where each character can be distilled down to their purest form, then placed in wholly different settings and stories not possible in the main DC line. It allows creators to deconstruct and reexamine these icons in new light. There's a reason so many Elseworlds stories are so beloved and still selling to this day.

Why did you choose the Tangent Green Lantern to be the star of this dark-fantasy Elseworlds tale?

Even though the Green Lantern is more associated with science fiction these days, the character was originally much more fantastical! Returning the character to these fantasy roots just seemed right. Plus, the very witchy Tangent Green Lantern has just been waiting to be used to her full potential! The same could be said for the entire Tangent Universe, which is just a *very* cool and imaginative playground. However, the Green Lantern we're introducing is not the Tangent Lantern fans know, but how the two are related will slowly be revealed across our story...

What is artist Werther Dell'Edera bringing to this project?

I don't have the words to describe what Werther is bringing to this comic book. It's transcendent. He brings such energy, humanity, and pathos to everything he draws. It's pure comics storytelling. He's a master. And if you're a fan of his work on *Something Is Killing the Children*, just wait until you see what he's doing here. He's hitting entirely new levels on both an epic and intimate scale.

Can you tease fans with your favorite scene from the first issue?

Oh man! It's hard to pick one scene, but my favorite might involve a rogue zombie hand landing in a certain Green Lantern's beer, and she *really* wanted to finish that beer!

Can you describe this series in five words?

Dark. Epic. Human. Adventure. Heart.

DON'T MISS *GREEN LANTERN DARK* #1, ON SALE THIS OCTOBER!

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The Last Kryptonian-DCP